

WINTER 1971

# OUR PUBLIC LANDS



Sacajawea's Papoose—Page 4





BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Boyd L. Rasmussen, Director

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, wildlife, mineral, land, park, and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial affairs are other major concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources."

The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States—now and in the future.

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Ed Parker, Editor

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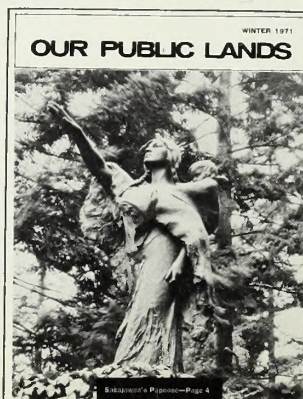
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Statue of Sacajawea and her papoose, Jean Baptiste Charbonneau, Washington Park, Portland, Ore. (Courtesy of Portland Chamber of Commerce)



# HIGHLIGHTS

## **Interior Bans Billboards From the Public Lands**

The Department of the Interior has proposed new regulations that will ban billboards on public lands managed by the Department, including some 460 million acres managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

Under the proposed regulations, billboards and similar commercial displays would be banned from the public domain. The only advertising permissible would be displays on or within 50 feet of the business which is advertised.

No existing permits would be renewed unless they meet the new requirements. The ban would apply to signs or displays constructed on the ground, or attached to trees, posts, or other public land features.

As proposed, the rules would require removal by BLM officials of any advertising display that has been placed on public lands without a permit.

They also would require that any display erected under a permit that has expired or has been revoked must be removed within 30 days at the permittee's expense.

## **Director Rasmussen To Head KAB's National Advisory Council**

BLM Director Boyd L. Rasmussen was elected Chairman of the National Advisory Council of Keep America Beautiful, Inc., (KAB) at the organization's 17th annual meeting in November 1970. He succeeds Thomas L. Kimball, Executive Director, National Wildlife Federation.

At the awards luncheon, Director Rasmussen reported on the excellent growth of the Johnny Horizon

antilitter and environmental program during 1970. He explained how Johnny Horizon has expanded from a Bureau to a Department program and has enlisted the support of people from industry, the entertainment field, and from youth and civic organizations.

After the luncheon, television and motion picture stars Burl Ives, Karen Rondell, and Randy Sparks entertained with a group of environmental songs. They closed by singing the Johnny Horizon song with the luncheon guests joining in the chorus.

## **Alaska Pipeline Survey Turns Up Archeological Sites**

The survey of the intended route for the proposed Alaska pipeline has turned up at least two sites of significance to archeologists interested in the history of man in the far north. The Department of the Interior has described the discoveries as being of great importance in piecing together the history of America's Arctic.

The discoveries were made by Professor John P. Cook and a team of university anthropology graduate students. The scientific survey was carried out this past summer under contract with the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, since renamed the Alyeska Pipeline Co. The survey was required by stipulations developed by the Department of the Interior calling for archeological surveillance and inspection of the pipeline route. The sites are located about 30 miles north of Galbraith Lake, and about 75 miles from Anaktuvuk Pass.

One site, named Gallagher Flint Station in honor of University of Alaska student Charles Gallagher who discovered it, is believed to have been a lookout post where native hunters could chip away at stone weapons and tools while watching for game. It is believed to be 8,000 years old.

The second site was discovered by a team led by student Jim Corbin and is believed to have been a Nunamiut settlement dating back to the turn of the century. The Nunamiuts were a nomadic tribe of Eskimos that inhabited the interior of Alaska.

Hundreds of arrow and spear points are being catalogued by the survey team involved in the project. Manufactured items such as rifle mechanisms—which might be traced to the days of Russian activity in Alaska—and food containers are also being carefully treated and examined to pinpoint their age in history.

Professor Cook said, "The whole pipeline survey has been a windfall as far as anthropology is concerned. There is no way of telling how long it would have taken to make these discoveries without the pipeline survey."



# SACAJAWEA'S PAPOOSE

AMERICAN history's youngest explorer, a member of the most famous expedition in the annals of the West, incredibly has remained a mystery man for 165 years. He was Jean Baptiste Charbonneau, son of Toussaint Charbonneau, interpreter, and his Shoshone Indian wife, Sacajawea, unofficial guide for the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804-06.

Baptiste was born on February 11, 1805, when his mother was about 17 years old. His birthplace was at the Fort Mandan site near the confluence of the Knife and Missouri Rivers, about 50 miles upstream from the present city of Bismarck, N. Dak.

Sacajawea had been kidnapped by the Minnataree tribe about 1800 when only 12 years old. She was taken by her captors from the mountain homeland of her own Shoshone tribe in the Snake River country to the plains country of the Missouri. There she was sold as a slave to Toussaint Charbonneau, a French-Canadian Indian.

The Lewis and Clark "Corps of Discovery" arrived at the Mandan site on October 26, 1804, where they established Fort Mandan as their winter headquarters. During the course of the winter, the expedition leaders contracted with Toussaint to serve as an interpreter for the duration of the trek. They must also have reasoned that Sacajawea's Shoshone nationality would be a helpful advantage in dealing with Indians they would encounter to the west, especially in obtaining horses for transporting the expedition over the mountains. Accordingly, it was agreed that Sacajawea and her infant son would accompany the westward-bound explorers.

By IRVING W. ANDERSON

Chief, Division of Lands and Minerals,  
Program Management and Land Office  
BLM State Office, Portland, Oregon

(Based on the author's "J. B. Charbonneau, Son of Sacajawea" which appeared in the September 1970 issue of the Oregon Historical Quarterly.)

Ultimately this proved to be a master-stroke of diplomacy. Scores of potentially hostile Indian groups encountered throughout the journey befriended the strange assembly of explorers upon sighting the engaging Sacajawea and her papoose. To the Indians, their presence meant this was no traveling war party. In addition, Sacajawea's knowledge of her homeland contributed important guiding service to the expedition.

## Infant Explorer

Baptiste was only 55 days old when the expedition broke winter camp and headed for the Pacific. Carried mostly on the back of his mother, but also in Clark's canoe, the infant made the 20-month round trip of nearly 5,000 miles with only one major illness. As reported by both Clark and Lewis in separate journal entries, Baptiste suffered a very serious infection of the jaw and throat during the return trip east. Responding favorably to the remarkable medical talents of the expedition leaders, especially their unusual pharmaceutical preparations, he recovered within 21½ weeks. Among the treatments given him were poltices of wild onion, and a " \* \* \* plaster of sarve (salve) made of the rozen (resin) of the long leaf pine, Beaswax and Bears oil mixed \* \* \*" (Journal entry of June 5, 1806. Thwait's edition.)

Knicknamed "Pomp," a Shoshone term which describes the first born male child, the happy alert youngster became the favorite of Captain William Clark. "Pompey's Pillar," a historic landmark 28 miles east of Billings, Mont., was named for Baptiste by Clark

This is to certify that Eugeneia  
after a fair settlement it appears a balance  
Due Don Jose Ant. Pico of fifty one Dollars and thirty  
seven and a half Cents. all debt settled before me  
at this office at St. Louis Mo. April 24th 1848  
S. P. B. Charbonneau Do. sentence Eugeneia to work  
in the service of Don Jose Ant. Pico at the rate of  
twelve and a half Cents per Day. until he (Eugeneia)  
has paid said Debt.  
at this Magistrate's office St. Louis Mo.  
April 24th 1848  
S. P. B. Charbonneau  
Alc.

Written by Charbonneau as Alcalde, 1848. Reproduced from author's certified copy of the original in the Santa Barbara Mission Archives, Santa Barbara, Calif. This source contains the only original handwriting of Baptiste that is known to exist today.



when he carved his (Clark's) name in the rock of the pillar during the return trip in 1806. When Fort Mandan was reached by the returning party on August 15, Toussaint Charbonneau was paid "500\$ 33 $\frac{1}{3}$  cents" for his services (Sacajawea received no monetary payment) and the Charbonneau family re-entered the routine of frontier life.

Enroute to St. Louis shortly after departing Fort Mandan, Clark's fondness for his "little dancing boy" compelled him to write to Toussaint, suggesting that the Charbonneau family come to St. Louis where Clark would see to Baptiste's education. This they eventually did, and according to fragmentary records of the period, Baptiste was educated in both protestant and Catholic parochial schools in St. Louis.

### Travels Abroad

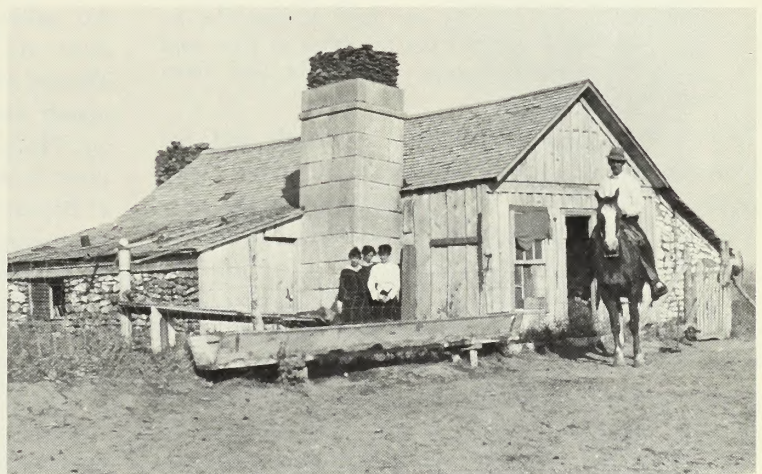
When he was 18 years old, Baptiste's unusual combination of cultural attainment and frontiersman skills interested Prince Paul Wilhelm of Wurtemberg, Germany, who was on a scientific mission to America. In 1823, Baptiste accompanied the Prince to Germany where the youngster was exposed to the sophisticated, aristocratic environment of the court. This sharpened and polished his social graces. Baptiste and Paul were inseparable companions for a period of 6 years, during which the two traveled extensively in Europe and even to Africa. It was in this important period of his life that Baptiste, now fluent in four languages, received a background that in later years would mark him as a cultural anomaly on the American frontier.

Baptiste returned to his homeland from Europe in 1829. By this time the Louisiana Purchase Territory was entering the transition between the fur trade and agricultural settlement. Vigorous exploration of the far West was in progress. The call of the western wilds was irresistible, and Baptiste set aside his classical life style and fell into the rough and tumble existence of the mountain man. He ranged the length and breadth of the American West—hunting, trapping, guiding, exploring. The journals of many important personalities involved in the exploration and settlement of the West record this remarkable man, and consistently testify to his "urbane, graceful, fluent" manner. Famous frontier figures with whom he shared associations included Joe Meek, Jim Bridger, Capt. Nathaniel J. Wyeth, T. J. Farnum, Lieut. John C. Fremont, William Clark Kennerly (nephew of Capt. William Clark), Col. Phillip St. George Cooke, Jim Beckwourth, Kit Carson, and many others.

The last important guiding service performed by Baptiste was that of scouting the route West for the march of the Mormon Battalion from New Mexico to California in 1846-1847. Under the command of Col. Phillip St. George Cooke, this expedition was significant not only for putting down the Mexican uprisings but also because, for the first time, wheeled vehicles traversed the Southwest desert. Baptiste's role in the success of this mission was vital, as the route through had to be thoroughly scouted in advance for food and water for the large party of men and animals. In addition, he had to be sure that the rugged country could be negotiated by the vehicles.



Charbonneau's grave as it appears today. Sign was erected by Jordan Valley, Oregon, Commercial Club. Wooden headstone was recently placed by local schoolchildren.



The fortfield Inskip Station house at Danner, Oreg., as it appeared about 1915. Charbonneau died in this building on May 16, 1866, and is buried nearby. The building is now in ruins. Local residents are Perthena Hinkle, Zora Dinwiddie, and Edith Jones (Mrs. Harold Skinner), standing, and Harold Skinner on horseback. (Courtesy of S. K. Skinner)



## Appointed Alcalde

Mustered out of the Mormon Battalion at San Diego in 1847, Baptiste was appointed Alcalde of San Luis Rey Mission, Calif., an office comparable to that of magistrate. Because of his concern, however, for human dignity in the treatment of certain Indians as virtual slaves, he resigned his official duties. Historians, in previously reporting this incident, interpreted the cause of Baptiste's resignation as "white dissatisfaction over his policy of treating Indians too kindly." In researching Baptiste's activities as Alcalde, however, it was found that a deeper reason must have motivated Baptiste to resign.

Father Zephyrin Engelhardt, in his *Missions and Missionaries* series in 1921, published an order written by Baptiste as Alcalde which reveals the cause of his moral concern for Indians. The order provided for: (1) " \* \* \* a fair settlement \* \* \*" of an account owed by an Indian to a proprietor of a general store and dram shop at the Mission; and (2) the sentencing of the Indian into the service of the proprietor until the debt of \$51 and 37½ cents had been worked off at the rate of 12½ cents per day.

As interpreted by Father Engelhardt:

" \* \* \* We can now very well understand why Charbonneau wanted to resign the office of the Justice of Peace. It was distasteful for a decent man to sentence helpless Indians to slavery in order that they might pay for the liquor received in excess of the 12½ cents, their day's wages for labor. If the Indian had a family, what of the wife and children? \* \* \* The poor Indian is held in slavery until he pays the balance, \$51.37½, by laboring at one real or 12½ cents per day! Meanwhile, he will want other goods from the store of Pico and so he will never emerge from debt and from slavery \* \* \* "

Ironically, Father Engelhardt apparently did not know the background of this remarkable man Charbonneau about whom he wrote, as this is the only reference to Baptiste cited in his *Missions and Missionaries* series.

Upon leaving San Luis Rey Mission, historical coincidences of time and events placed Baptiste in center stage of the California gold rush. John Marshall discovered gold at Sutter's Mill on January 19, 1848, and Baptiste was upon the scene in the earliest days of the frantic gold-fever stampede. Although it is recorded that Baptiste shared mining associations with old cronies Jim Beckwourth and Tom Buckner during the late 40's and early 50's, he evidently did not strike it rich. At least it is assumed that he made no important find, as

he was listed as a clerk in the Orleans Hotel, Auburn, Calif., in 1861.

## Search for Gold

Even at age 61, the compelling lure of the wilderness pulled strongly within him. Yielding to this urge, Baptiste, in the spring of 1866, joined a party heading for a new gold field in Montana. Traveling northeasterly from California their party reached the Owyhee River in Oregon the second week of May 1866. Spring is a transitional season in the Oregon desert, with alternating periods of precipitation, freezing, thawing, and clearing, accompanied by blustery wind conditions. Also at this time of year, the Owyhee runs a heavy volume of snow melt, with consequent frigid temperatures.

Baptiste crossed the river at a ford immediately below where Jordan Creek empties into the Owyhee. Reconstructing the scene, Baptiste swam his horse across the swollen river, and then had difficulty in drying his clothing and gear due to cool spring weather. At his advanced age of 61 years, his system apparently could not combat the excess strains. He contracted pneumonia, was helped by his two partners to the nearest shelter, Inskip's Station, 25 miles northeast of the Owyhee River. He failed to rally and died a short time later. Obituaries of the period place his date of death as May 16, 1866. He was buried a few hundred feet north of the station in what later became a burial plot containing Baptiste, two soldiers, and two children.

The burial site at Inskip Station is near the confluence of Jordan and Cow Creeks, presently identified as Danner, Ore. Located on private land within BLM's 4.6 million-acre Vale District, this tiny rural settlement still holds remains of the stagecoach era. It is situated 3 miles north of U.S. Highway 95, and approximately 15 miles west of the community of Jordan Valley, Malheur County, Ore. Presently standing structures in the community which were in use at the time of Baptiste's death include substantial in-place ruins of the Inskip Station fortification, stagecoach stables, rock corrals, a rock-cased well, and other relics of that frontier era which possess important historical values.

Residents in the area, Oregon State and Malheur County officials, the Oregon Historical Society, BLM, and other interested organizations and persons are co-operating in giving an appropriate identity to the site. As a beginning, the Oregon State Highway Commission will erect in 1971 a rustic, historic sign to mark and interpret the gravesite of the man who, as an infant, traveled the American wilderness with Lewis and Clark. □



By **LARRY C. EICHHORN**  
Natural Resource Specialist  
BLM District Office, Lewiston, Mont.

**T**HE MONTANA moss agate, which is found in the gravel beds of the Yellowstone River in eastern Montana, is the third hardest stone in the world and must be cut with diamond dust.

Prized by rock collectors, it is also one of the State's two official gemstones, the other being the sapphire. The naming of the agate as a State gemstone was the result of a 2-year effort by the Montana Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs.

The Yellowstone River flows eastward across Montana and empties into the Missouri River near the

Montana-North Dakota line. It is only along the lower 200 miles of the river that the agates are found. Towns in the area include Forsyth, Miles City, Terry, Glendive, and Sidney.

Many tracts of public land along the Yellowstone offer excellent agate hunting, and the gemstones may be collected in reasonable quantities for non-commercial purposes.

Agate is a cryptocrystalline variety of quartz that is commonly called chalcedony. It is composed of oxygen and silicon, and in most cases contains impurities in the form of metallic oxides and salts which give it a variety of colors and designs. It is formed in cavities in rock when water, percolating through the ground, picks up silicon and oxides and then deposits them in the cavities.

Designs formed by the impurities give the appearance of landscapes, trees, and mosses. Because of the tree-like designs commonly found in the Montana moss agate, it is known as a "dendritic" agate, and the moss spots are called "dendrites." □

# MONTANA'S MOSS AGATE

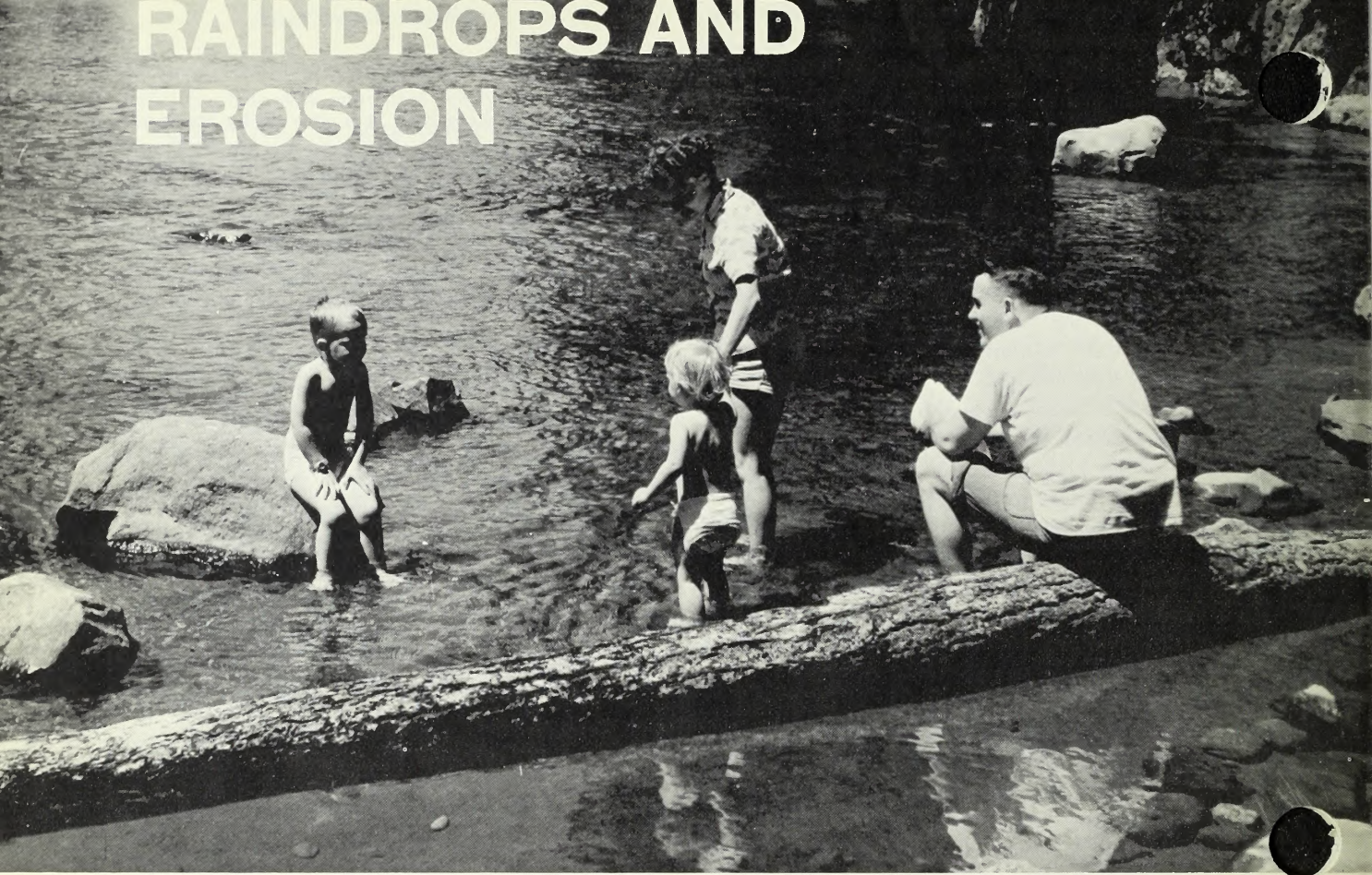
Agate hunting along the Yellowstone.

Inset: A good specimen of Montana agate showing dendrites.





# RAINDROPS AND EROSION



Unprotected land surfaces are easily washed away.



Reservoirs provide flood control and store water for later use.



## Opportunity for environmental planning

MAN, wherever he lives, whatever his culture, waits for the rain. Often he waits in hope, sometimes in fear, sometimes in vain, for the waters of the world do not always suit man's needs or desires as they move through their predestined cycle to and from the sea.

Yet if he is wise, man can exercise a measure of control over the movement of waters, and in so doing, he may, to a significant degree, control his own destiny. While the laws of the water cycle cannot be changed, they can be understood and made to work in man's behalf. The blending of natural law and human endeavor is the essence of resource management.

One out of every four raindrops that fall in the United States returns to the sea as runoff. From the public lands the average is much less—1 out of 10. The rest of the water is either returned to the atmosphere through evapotranspiration or is absorbed by the soil.

The amount of rain that runs off the land is affected by volume, time, ground cover, and topography. When a large amount of rain falls within a short period of time, the soil becomes saturated. Less water goes into the ground and more runs off. More water runs from a steep slope than from a gentle slope—and it runs faster.

If rainfall could be regulated to fall at well-spaced intervals and only in amounts soil could absorb, there would be little water erosion. But that is not how it works. In the desert, for example, rain is apt to come in a few violent thunderstorms that create rapid runoff.

The erosive force of running water comes primarily from its ability to hold solid particles in suspension. The faster it flows, the more solids it will carry. Thus, the greater the speed of water, the greater its destructive power. Conversely, as the speed of flow is reduced, the ability of water to hold solids in suspension is also reduced, and the particles then tend to settle out. This is known as siltation. Uncontrolled runoff erodes the soil, creates one of our major pollution problems,

chokes river channels, and fills reservoirs.

The combination of erosion and siltation is at the heart of water resource management problems in many parts of the country, but especially on the public lands where there are great fluctuations in flow and where land surfaces are easily washed away.

As custodian of the Nation's public lands, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is concerned with water as a part of its management program. Runoff from public land supplies water for domestic use and irrigation, contributes to industrial development, and supports water-based recreation. Therefore, the Bureau has a responsibility to downstream users to manage public land so that runoff is as free of silt as possible.

All land having a common drainage channel makes up a watershed. To break the problem of water control down to manageable portions, it is convenient to think and plan in terms of a watershed and to treat the land within the drainage system as a single unit.

With minor exceptions, the lands administered by BLM in the Western States lie in arid or semi-arid zones. It is estimated that 6.1 million acre-feet of water, the equivalent of an average of 1/2-inch of rainfall, runs off these lands each year. While this is a relatively small amount of runoff, the damage in soil erosion and siltation is disproportionately great because of the condition of the lands.

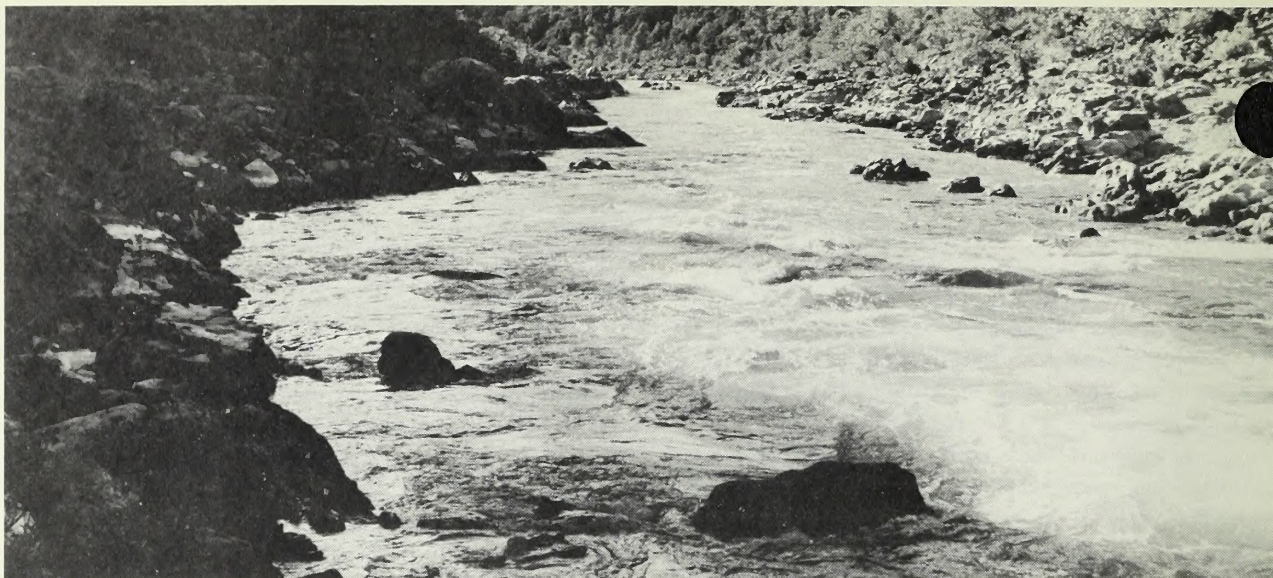
Public lands in the 10 Western States—123 million acres—are in fair to poor condition. Over 45 million of these acres are frail lands; i.e., lands in an advanced state of erosion, with either thin or unstable topsoil or, in some cases, no topsoil at all. Moreover, 20 million acres of these frail lands are deteriorating.

The public lands deposit an annual sediment load of 544 million tons in western streams, and most of this comes from the 123 million acres that are in fair to poor condition.

Water coming from the land with a heavy silt load is not fit for domestic or industrial use unless treated. And while western communities are now preoccupied with pollution from domestic sources, soil sediment

(Based on the author's "An Opportunity for Environmental Planning" which appears in the Department of the Interior's current environmental report, "River of Life." See back cover.)





Clean water for downstream users.

remains the largest single source of pollution for most of the region's water supply. As water needs increase in the years ahead, the problem of sediment will become more pressing.

Sediment removal at the consumer's end of the stream is far from a satisfactory solution. Soil is needed on the land where it originates, and adequate land treatment and management to keep it there is, in the long run, the best way to ensure high water quality at the faucet as well as esthetic and recreational values along the entire course of the stream.

But pollution control is only one facet of watershed management. Another is regulating the yield of water from the watershed—the amount of rainfall that is made available downstream. Availability may result from surface runoff that reaches the stream, releases from springs, or pumping from underground reservoirs. A major means of augmenting supplies is to hold back the runoff from a heavy rain for gradual release over a longer period of time. This may be done by storing surface water in reservoirs and treating land to allow more water to percolate underground.

Also figuring into watershed management values is the prevention of damage to livestock forage and wildlife habitat. The preservation of environmental esthetics is a still further and increasingly important value.

Direct, onsite benefits from watershed management include the preservation of topsoil, the revegetation of land, and the use of reservoirs and other structures which results in greater forage production, timber growth, better wildlife habitat, and, in many cases, greater recreational opportunity.

For example, a reservoir contributes to flood preven-

tion and stream stabilization, furnishes water for livestock and wildlife, creates a habitat for fish, and with its shores planted with trees and shrubs becomes an inviting place for picnickers and campers.

The need for more and better watershed management on the public lands is illustrated by Bureau estimates that water from these lands accounts for \$14.1 million of the Nation's annual flood damage bill and for another \$23.9 million in sediment damage, primarily through the siltation of expensive reservoirs. These damages can be reduced through more effective management.

Effective watershed management requires a variety of conservation practices. BLM works toward the stabilization and improvement of soils through the control of brush and weeds and the seeding of desirable vegetation. Its water management practices also include detention and retention dams, dikes, water-spreaders, diversions, and the protection of stream banks.

Since the Taylor Grazing Act in 1934, BLM and its predecessor agency have built water control structures totaling 73 million cubic yards, have seeded 2 million acres of public land, have applied brush and weed control practices to 1.7 million acres, have built 57,000 miles of protective fences, and have completed nearly 41,000 water development projects, including the development of springs and the construction of small reservoirs.

The job ahead, however, is even bigger. Studies show that for the most effective management of water resources, the public lands now need additional water structures totaling 196 million cubic yards, revegeta-



tion on 12 million acres, brush and weed control on 15 million acres, another 44,000 water developments, and additional 65,000 miles of fence. Although BLM made significant progress toward the conservation of soil and water through its watershed programs, accelerating demands threaten to nullify or surpass its efforts.

Estimates indicate that the present level of programming may be just enough to maintain the status quo through the year 2000. Then the 123 million acres of deteriorated land will be no worse than now, but the need for its potential resources will be considerably greater. The net effect will be a falling behind in our efforts to meet future needs.

To meet the challenge, BLM has proposed a \$600 million program to provide adequate watershed management by 1990. Program objectives will be weighed against cost-effectiveness and cost benefit criteria to determine where funds can most profitably be spent.

In areas where BLM lands are intermingled with private land or land administered by other agencies, the Bureau must plan and develop its program cooperatively. BLM now participates in cooperative efforts with State, county and local organizations as well as with other Federal agencies in identifying needs and developing plans.

Full development of water resources on public land would substantially increase wildlife populations. Over 5 million big game animals and a large population of small game now use public land habitat. Among these are 19 species of rare animals and 21 species classified as endangered. In arid regions—characteristic of much of the public domain—water is often the factor limiting population increases. It is also the critical factor in the well-being of waterfowl and various species of wetland game.

Habitat protection and development will play an important role in the years ahead. Alaska now has 57 million acres of natural wetlands within the public domain that are being used by waterfowl and other wetland species. An additional 276,000 acres of natural wetlands are among the public lands of the Far Western States. Another 142,000 acres of surface water, considered primarily beneficial for wetland species, lie behind public land impoundments.

The public domain supports a significant fishery. There are over 10,000 miles of actual or potential fishing streams outside of Alaska and 50,000 miles inside that State. There are 96,800 natural lakes, covering 8.3 million acres within public land boundaries. All but 134 of these lakes are in Alaska.

In addition to the natural lakes, 2,448 manmade

impoundments totaling 348,836 acres of surface water have fisheries potential. All are located in the conterminous States. BLM estimates that fish production from public land waters can easily be increased three times by more intensive management.

Alaska streams and lakes represent the most extensive public land fisheries, and Alaska waters are generally in good condition. For the immediate future, improvement programs will be largely confined to the lower 48 States. Here 3,000 out of 10,000 miles of public land streams are in less than satisfactory condition. Of 134 natural lakes, only 91 are producing satisfactorily. Of the 2,448 manmade impoundments, 2,156 fail to meet the requirements for satisfactory fish production. Out of a total of 704,000 acres of potential fishing waters, 233,000 fail to rate a satisfactory classification.

Public land waters now support 4.1 million visitor days of fishing, and yield 54.7 million pounds of commercially harvested fish and other aquatic foods in addition to the fish taken in sport.

The bulk of the sport fishing activity is found outside of Alaska: 3.8 of the 4.1 million visitor days involved public land waters in 10 States in the West. But Alaska yielded 52 of the 54.7 million pounds of the commercial harvest.

Through the last decade, the increased use of public land for outdoor recreation has catapulted the public lands into the national recreation picture as never before.

Inventories now being made of the potential for water-based recreation on the public land lists some unusual resources. For example, the Rogue River in Oregon offers some of the finest white-water boating in the United States, and the public lands of the Rio Grande Gorge in New Mexico are spectacular for backpacking. Loon Lake in Oregon, an outstanding example of development around a reservoir, offers boating, water skiing and swimming, as well as camping and picnicking.

In 1968, water sports accounted for 357,000 visitor days of use on the public lands. This was in addition to activities such as hiking, camping, picnicking, and sightseeing where the proximity of streams and lakes added an extra quality to the experience.

Not all recreation resources require development. In many instances, the protection of existing values is as important to present and future recreational opportunity as new development—perhaps even more so. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is one tool that BLM is using to protect existing values along streams that flow across public land. □



# SURVEYING MICRONESIA

This Abai, a traditional meeting house for men, was constructed by craftsmen in the ancient manner to house artifacts of the Palau Museum.



## *Establishing land records in the South Seas*

**F**OR TWENTY YEARS Silvestre V. Castro, his wife and 10 children have lived on a small lot in the village of San Roque in the northern part of the South Sea Island of Saipan. On February 28, 1970, Mr. Castro became the first Micronesian to gain legal title to the land as a result of the present cadastral survey system being carried out in the islands that compose the Trust Territory of Micronesia.

The new survey was instituted by the Land and Surveys Division, an agency of the island's government. The project will eventually cover the more than 2,000 islands that make up the Trust Territory of Micronesia. Five employees of the Bureau of Land Management were sent to the islands to help Lands and Surveys set up a land records system.

The assignment proved to be quite a change of pace for the BLM survey crew. In the States they were ac-

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By **PAUL C. HERNDON**  
Writer-Editor

and **GROVER B. TORBERT**  
Cartographer

BLM, Washington, D.C.

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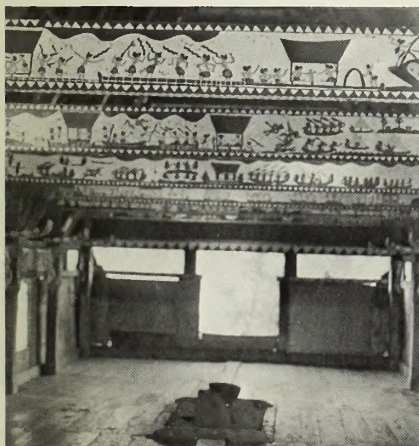
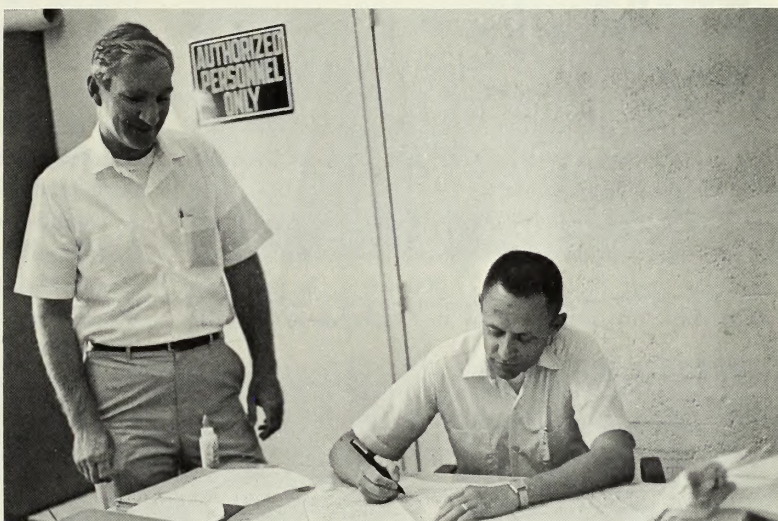


District Surveyor Frankie Castro points out landmark to Party Chief Fermin Paz, Ponape Land Officer Kazo Yamanda, and Instrumentman Masuo Edward on completing survey of Catholic mission land.

The first property plat to be completed is approved by Paul Dennis, right, Chief of Lands and Surveys, and Ron Perry, Territorial Surveyor. Dennis formerly worked for BLM.

Wood carvings inside the Abai depict the history of the islands.

Surveying aides Inasio Jiko and Omoha Kiku set the first village boundary corner to be monumented in Truk under the cadastral project.





customed to running survey lines that encompassed millions of acres. In the islands, they had to become accustomed to thinking in terms of townlots and garden-sized farms. The islands had the same rough terrain, dense vegetation and bad weather that they were used to in the States, but there they also met a new and novel problem—a South Sea island snail that feeds on concrete survey markers as it forages for calcium, which is scarce in the islands, to build its shell.

Members of the team included Jerry Knight from BLM's Arizona office, Norman McDonald from the Portland Service Center, Albert White from the Oregon State Office, Mason Thayer and Hobart Hyatt from the Alaska State Office. All have now returned to the States. Each surveyor was assigned to a different district within the Territory. Their assignments were for a period of 6 months. They assisted the Micronesians in determining individual land ownerships throughout the islands by surveying the boundaries of both private and public land. These surveys will help the islanders establish a legal system of land records.

The total land area of the islands making up the Trust Territory of Micronesia is about 700 square miles, or about  $\frac{2}{3}$  the size of the State of Rhode Island. This land area is divided among 2,141 separate islands that are scattered over an ocean area that is larger than the continental United States.

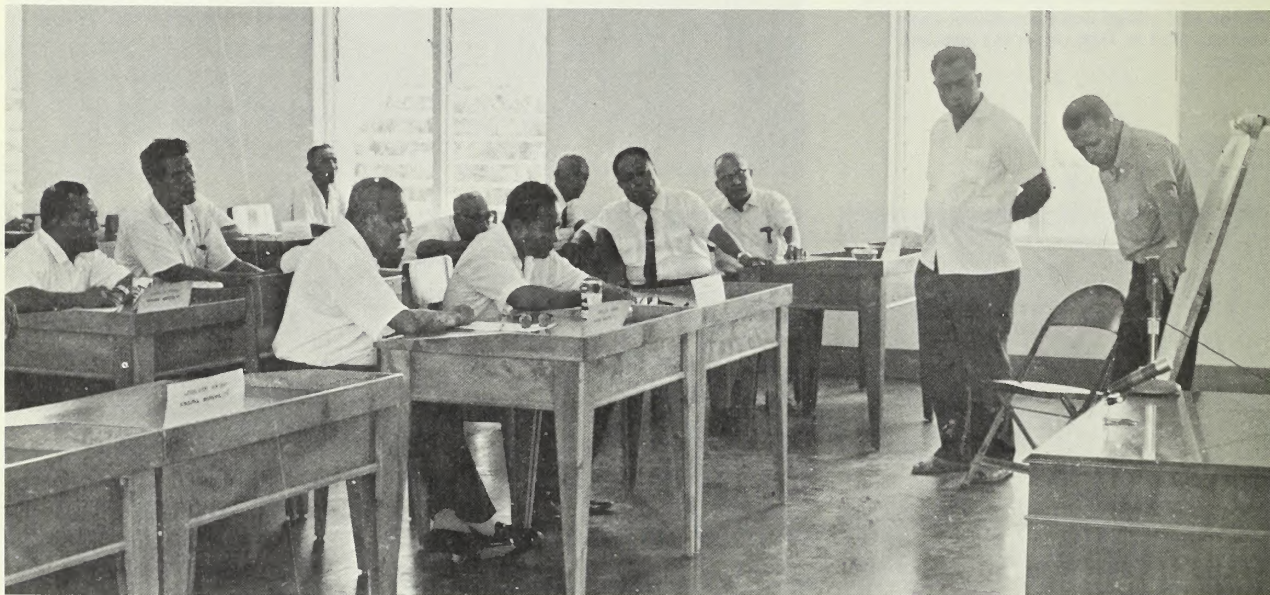
Only about 100 of the larger islands are inhabited, but each uninhabited island is covered by land claims. Less than half the land, 177,500 acres, is privately owned, but this private land is divided into an esti-

cated 248,000 parcels, and each parcel may have several owners. The rest of the land is public land. The concept of public land was introduced into the islands by the Germans and continued by the Japanese. Micronesian leaders had expressed the fear that the present survey would result in the island government claiming more of the Micronesian land for public domain. The surveyors point out, however, that the reverse could just as easily be true.

One may ask, why take the trouble to survey such a small land area, or why make the survey at this time? The answer to both lies in the history of the islands and especially in the intermingling of cultures that result from the historical experience.

In spite of the rule of four great powers—Spain, Germany, Japan, and now the United States—dating back to 1668, the islands and their people are just emerging into the mainstream of the 20th century. This debut is being made in both fear and hope, but on the whole, the citizens of the islands know that future progress and development is closely tied to a system of land records that protects ownership of land. Whether it be for a hotel or a factory, those who invest in Micronesian development must have assurance that their title to land they build on is clear of adverse claims. The present survey will help determine this by marking the boundaries of both public and private holdings, and by establishing a system whereby deeds can be recorded.

Before Spanish rule, the only government in the islands was that of the native chiefs. In an environment where life was undemanding and nature supplied the



Paul Dennis, right, explains cadastral program to the Palau Legislature. Also standing is Legislative Secretary Sylvester Alonzo who acted as interpreter. Directly to his right are Palau's two paramount Chiefs, Aibedul and Reklai.



needs of the individual, the question of who owned a particular parcel of land was never critical. One function of the chief was to keep accounts of who owned what in his head and to pass this information on to those who succeeded him. Land ownership patterns were both simple and complex. Boundary lines were vague or nonexistent, and rights to the land were often overlapping. On a given parcel of land, one individual might have the right to gather the coconuts, while another individual would have the right to build his house there, and perhaps the whole community would graze their pigs over the area.

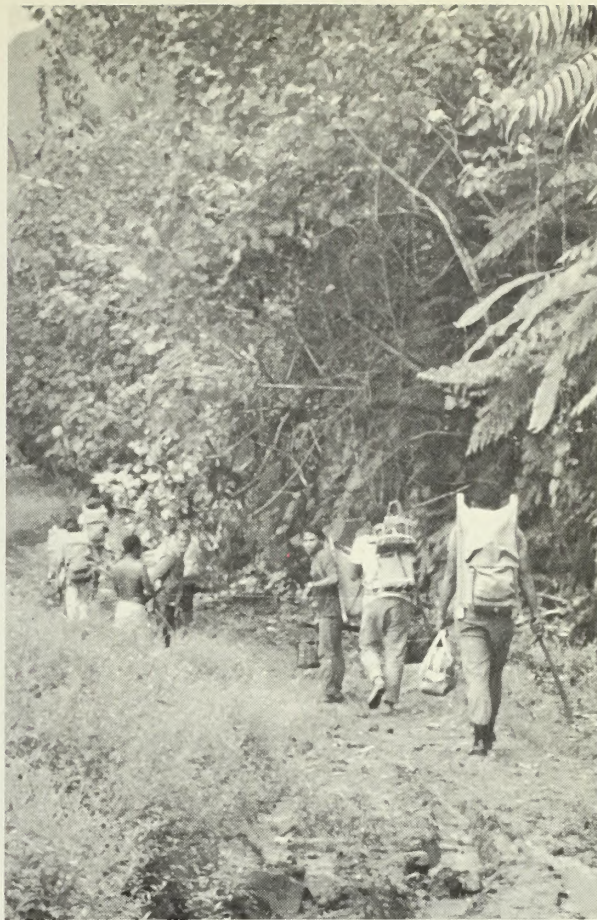
The Spanish brought the western concept of land ownership to the islands, but their administration was more concerned with converting the islanders to Christianity. They gave land titles to some of the islanders, but boundaries were based on vague descriptions and the system was never carried to more than a few of the islands.

The Germans perpetuated the concept of land ownership and private right to land, but they also proclaimed that all land not fenced for pasture or not in cultivation would be considered as public land. The German land system was, however, confined to only a few of the islands. In contrast to the Spanish, they kept accurate records and surveyed land boundaries. Homesteading was encouraged, and those who homesteaded public land were given titles to the land.

During World War I, Japan seized the islands from Germany, and when the war was over was given a mandate to administer the territory. The Japanese recognized the mandate titles granted by the Germans and made extensive surveys of their own. However, the Japanese foresaw the possibility of developing a sugar industry in the islands, and for this they needed every available parcel of public land. For this reason they allowed no further homesteading and issued no new titles against the public land.

World War II had a chaotic effect on land ownership patterns throughout the islands. During the invasion by American forces, land records were obliterated, and many persons who were knowledgeable about local ownership patterns were killed. Once the war was over, the United Nations gave the United States a mandate to administer the islands. One stipulation of this mandate was to "protect the inhabitants against the loss of their land and resources." As the American administration took charge of the island's affairs, they found that the records necessary to fulfill this mandate were largely nonexistent.

A major function of the BLM team was to help local officials re-establish land boundaries so that land



Lush tropical vegetation was one of the obstacles the cadastral crews had to overcome.

claims could be honored, and the present administration could set up a system of land records. They worked closely with administration officials to search out land records in the islands in an effort to determine who owns each parcel of land. Certificates of Title were issued for the parcels surveyed.

The task was exceedingly complicated and is continuing under the leadership of other workers. Claims include prewar and postwar claims, homesteads, Japanese and U.S. Naval leases and exchange parcels. But once the work is finished, the boundaries established by the BLM team and other island surveyors will become the basis for an orderly land system.

No story about the South Sea islands can be closed without its element of romance. On June 20, one of the BLM surveyors, Mr. Jerry Knight, and Miss Callista Idit of the island of Palau, were married. They have since returned to the States to accept a new assignment in Billings, Mont., and that's how any story of tropical isles should end. □





### *Setting a new record*

FOR THE second year running Johnny Horizon and his partners have been out cleaning the land across the Nation and clear to American Samoa in the South Pacific.

For voluntary participation they set a record. More than 47,000 people, according to preliminary reports, cleaned trash and litter from public lands and parks, playgrounds, river banks, lakes and bays, roadsides and whatever during Countryside Cleanup Days, September 19–October 18. When all reports are in, Johnny Horizon Headquarters in Washington, D.C., expects voluntary participation to total more than 100,000 people.

Countryside cleanups this fall were organized in 19 States, the District of Columbia, and American Samoa.

Cleanup projects were sponsored by Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Campfire Girls; elementary and high school students; civic clubs; rock and gem collectors; four-wheel drive and motorcycle enthusiasts; sportsmen and garden clubs—in fact, just about every kind of organization.

In addition to the volunteers who actually picked up the trash, there were many who gave essential support. Local and State police helped with traffic control; local highway departments and other government agencies provided trucks to haul the accumulated trash; and food and soft drinks for the volunteers were furnished by restaurants, grocery stores, bottling companies, and other businesses and industries.

As a single, nationwide cleanup effort, Countryside Cleanup Days this year was a huge success. But Johnny Horizon reminds everyone that his slogan, "This Land is Your Land—Keep it Clean," is one to be heeded every day in the year. Litter can be eliminated across the country if citizens in every State, in every community, keep fighting it on a daily basis. □

## COUNTRYSIDE

Washington, D.C.

American Samoa.





CLEANUP DAYS—1970



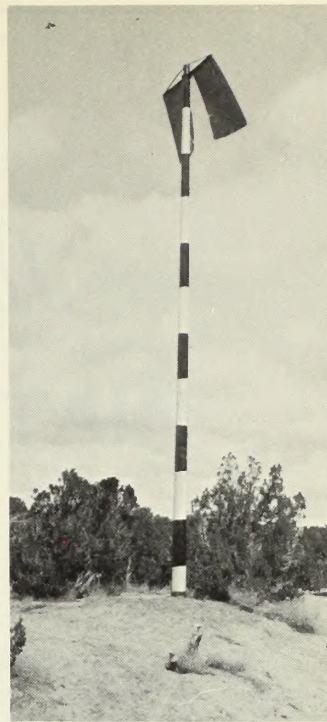


# LITTLE SAHARA

*Sand dune playground*







**W**IND-SCULPTURED sand dunes, about 100,000 acres of them, have become one of the big attractions on the public lands of Juab County in western Utah.

Five years ago they drew perhaps 10,000 visitors a year. Last year they were the playground of about 100,000 people.

The big sandbox developed from the massive sandbars and deltas that were left by ancient Lake Bonneville that once covered most of Utah and extended into Idaho and Nevada. The Great Salt Lake of today is a remnant of Bonneville which, at its maximum, was over 1,000 feet deep, 145 miles wide and 346 miles long.

The dunes, designated by the Bureau of Land Management as the Little Sahara Recreation Area, are also known locally as the Jericho Sand Dunes, a name taken from a nearby railroad siding.

Easter is the most popular time to visit the area. In recent years, as many as 25,000 people have gone to the dunes on that weekend holiday.

Once at the dunes, some people just sit or stroll, enjoying the unusual landscape and watching other people \* \* \*

Youngsters climb the steep slopes, their legs churning as the sand slides from beneath their feet, and then purposely falling, they roll and tumble back down. Some slide down on a piece of cardboard, an old coat, or just the seat of their pants. Others make sandpiles and knock them down, dig holes and fill them up, and sometimes cover themselves in the process. Pretty girls sunbathe, and dune buggies of all types, trail bikes, and miscellaneous motor vehicles challenge the sandy slopes: how steep can they climb, how far, how fast?

In the meantime, BLM's Fillmore District is preparing a master plan for Little Sahara to meet the recreational needs of all who visit the area.

A recent and unusual safety provision for visitors is the "homing pole." Each year a few of the little folks used to wander a bit too far and get lost among the dunes—and a few of the older folks, too. Once the Juab County Sheriff's posse and other volunteers spent a long night on the dunes before finding a lost child and averting a tragedy. Thus, the homing pole: 40-feet high, red and white striped, and topped with two red flags. Now parents can tell their children, "If you lose your way, climb to the top of the nearest dune, look for the homing pole, and head for camp." □

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By **DAVID ORR**

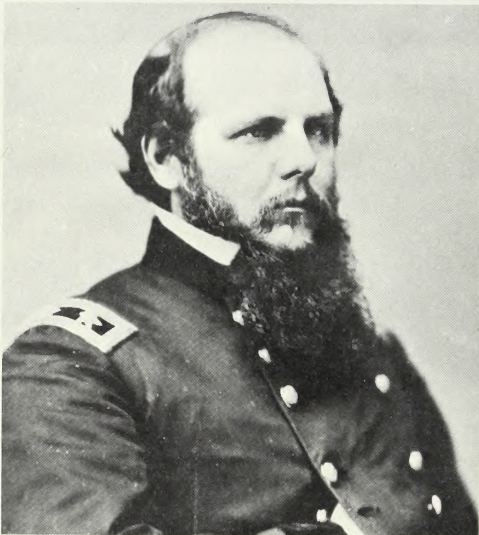
Delta Resource Area Manager  
BLM District Office, Fillmore, Utah

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# John M. Schofield

*From public land surveyor to  
commanding general*



General John M. Schofield. (U.S. Signal Corps photo from the Mathew B. Brady Collection, National Archives, Washington, D.C.)

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By **JERRY A. O'CALLAGHAN**

Chief, Division of Cooperative Relations  
BLM, Washington, D.C.

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**A** FORMER commanding general of the U.S. Army was appointed to West Point because of his experience in surveying the public lands.

In his "Forty-six Years in the Army," Lt. Gen. John M. Schofield recounted the circumstances of his appointment to the academy in 1849. "At 16 years of age I spent 3 months surveying public lands in the wilds of northern Wisconsin \* \* \*"

The experience was to serve young Schofield well. There was a sudden West Point vacancy in his Illinois congressional district, and the local congressman wanted to make an immediate appointment. Schofield came to his attention.

"He had heard from my brother James of the stamina I had shown on the public land surveying expedition and also from my father of my determination to get a good education. He said a boy with that record could get through West Point."

Schofield graduated in the class of 1853, became a brigadier general of volunteers in 1861, served in high commands throughout the Civil War, held many military and diplomatic posts thereafter, and became Commanding General of the Army in 1883.

Schofield Barracks in Hawaii is named for him—a fitting memorial to his distinguished military career since it was he who, in 1872, recommended the acquisition of Pearl Harbor as a naval base. □



# WEDDING AT CEDAR MOUNTAIN

A wedding announcement in the Sun-Advocate at Price, Utah read:

"ELMO—Mr. and Mrs. Richard Snow recently were honored at a reception given by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Merwin Johansen, at Elmo. Mrs. Snow is the former Wilma Johansen.

They were married at \* \* \*

and where they were married is what made this an off-the-ordinary wedding. The setting the young couple chose to exchange vows was BLM's Cedar Mountain Recreation Area.

It was about 2 months before the wedding that the bride's mother stopped by BLM's Price office and asked if it would be necessary to get a permit to hold her daughter's wedding at Cedar Mountain. This was the first time that District Manager Lorin Welker had heard of a BLM recreation area being used as a wedding chapel. Though somewhat startled, he assured Mrs. Johansen that a permit would not be necessary since the recreation area had been developed for the use of people.

Wilma and Richard Snow chose Cedar Mountain because of the primitive grandeur of its rocks and trees and the panoramic views of the wild Sinbad and San Rafael Desert country.

So it was that the young couple exchanged vows at the Cedar Mountain Overlook. And the bride, escorted by her father along a pebble-strewn path to the outdoor wedding chapel, was lovely in a traditional white satin gown with a train adorned with sequins and pearls. □



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By A. LAURELLE HUGHES

Clerk-Typist  
BLM District Office, Price, Utah

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The first determination of ownership to be made under the cadastral project was announced February 28, 1970, at San Roque, Saipan. Landowner Silvestre V. Castro, center, receives determination document from James B. Johnson, Senior Land Commissioner in the Marianas. Staff members from Johnson's office were present for the occasion. From left: Juana Kani, Angie Iba, Mrs. Castro, Castro, Johnson, Felix Sakisat, and Felipe Rusk. Johnson formerly worked for BIM. (Story on page 12.)



This is a compilation of the most up-to-date information on up-coming sales of public lands by land offices of the BLM of Land Management. For details of land descriptions, prices, and other information pertinent to sales, you must write the individual land office concerned. In most cases, there are adjoining landowners who have statutory preference rights and may wish to exercise them to buy the land. Sales notices will point out, insofar as possible, problems relating to (1) access, (2) adjoining owner preference rights, (3) small-tract sales limitation of one per customer, and other pertinent information. When possible, all sales are scheduled far enough in advance so ample notice can be given in Our Public Lands. Sales listed can be canceled on short notice for administrative and technical reasons. A listing of BLM land offices with addresses is found on the opposite page.

## ALASKA

Public lands in Alaska are not available for sale at this time. Future public land sales will be announced in this space when scheduled.

## ARIZONA

40 A, 10 miles north of Wickieup. U.S. 93 crosses tract. Utilities available. Moderately level to rolling. App \$120 per A.

320 A, 1/2 mile north of Yucca. Crossed by U.S. 66. Rolling desertland. No appraisal at this time.

## CALIFORNIA

2 tracts: 33.72 A app \$10,000 and 40 A app \$6,400. 6 miles west of Dos Rios, Mendocino Cty. No public road access. Both tracts have building sites and potential for subdivision.

8.39 A, 7 air miles east of Middletown, Lake Cty. No public road access. Good recreation site. App \$920.

48 A near Nevada-California border, Lassen Cty. Access by paved county road. Some potential for agriculture. App \$4,800.

Numerous scattered and isolated tracts of rough brushland in central California. Most without public road access; some with water and grass sufficient for grazing. Query Sacramento Land Office for details.



## MONTANA

The following tracts are scheduled for sale on February 23, 1971.

77.19 A, 5 miles east and 8 miles south of Townsend, Broadwater Cty. Flat to moderately steep; soil is decomposed quartz. Grass and scattered junipers and pines. Access by gravel county road. No water. App \$2,150 plus pub.

246.19 A, 5 miles east and 8 miles south of Townsend, Broadwater Cty. Flat to moderately steep; silt loam soil; scattered trees in draws and bluebunch wheatgrass on benches. No legal access; no water. App \$6,900 plus pub.

3 isolated tracts, 35 miles southwest of Jordan, Garfield Cty. Tracts 1 and 2 are gently rolling to steep and rough with rough ridges and buttes. Tract 3 is mostly badlands but has small area of moderately rolling land. All tracts are grassland with blue grama, western wheatgrass, bluebunch, sage, and forbs. None have stockwater or legal access. Tract 1, 160.04 A, app \$2,100 plus pub. Tract 2, 160 A, app \$2,100 plus pub. Tract 3, 313.84 A, app \$3,100 plus pub.

3 isolated tracts, 25 air miles north of Forsyth, Rosebud Cty. Mostly rolling; clay soils with a few sandy areas along ridge tops. Grassland with wheatgrass, blue grama, green needlegrass, sage and rabbitbrush. No stockwater; no legal access. 2 tracts, 320 A each, app \$3,200 each plus pub. 1 tract, 480 A, app \$4,800, plus pub.

284.60 A, 15 miles west of Angela, Rosebud Cty. Gently to moderately rolling with silty soils. Good stand of native grasses and shrubs; major species are blue grama, sedges, and sage. No stockwater. Gravel county road along north side. App \$2,850 plus pub.

2 isolated tracts, 40 A each, 9 miles southwest of Sidney, Richland Cty. Gently to moderately rolling; silty to sandy soils with high gravel content on hills. Bluebunch wheatgrass, little bluestem, blue grama, prairie sandreed, and forbs. No stockwater, no legal access. App \$1,160 each plus pub.

## NEW MEXICO

40 A, 30 miles north of U.S. 66 from Prewitt. Accessible over 2 miles of private ranch road from State Road 56 via Crownpoint. Tract is within exterior boundaries of a large ranch. Rolling, open grazing land; native grasses. Elevation 6,600 feet. Electricity available in general area; domestic water might be obtained from drilled wells. App \$15 per A.

## NEVADA

4 tracts: 2 tracts 30 A each, 1 tract 40 A, and 1 tract 45 A, at Wendover, Elko Cty. Utilities available. U.S. Highway crosses 3 tracts. App \$1,500 to \$5,000. Sale at Elko District Office, 10 a.m., April 14, 1971.

## NORTH DAKOTA

40 A, 8 air miles southwest of Gackle, Logan, Cty. Moderately to steeply rolling grassland; major species are western wheatgrass, needle and thread, green needlegrass, and bluegrass.

Loamy to shallow loamy soils. No stockwater; no access. App \$2,000 plus pub.

40 A, 12 air miles northwest of Newton, Mountrail Cty. Moderately sloping to steep grassland; too steep for cultivation. Blue grama prairie jungrass, wheatgrasses, forbs and weeds. A portion of a detention dam is in northwest corner. No access. App \$1,080 plus pub.

## SOUTH DAKOTA

40 A, 10 air miles southeast of Hot Springs, Fall River Cty. Gently to moderately rolling grassland; blue grama, sand dropseed, threadleaf sedge. Sandy to steep sandy soils subject to erosion if tilled. No stockwater; no legal access. App \$1,720 plus pub.

## UTAH

160 A, 35 miles northeast of Vernal, Uintah Cty. Rocky southerly slope with scattered ponderosa pine. No legal access. Elevation 8,000 feet. App \$4,000.

3 tracts: 2 tracts 40 A each, app \$640 each; 1 tract 80 A, app \$1,280. 13 miles north of Monticello, San Juan Cty. Rolling and hilly; no water; no legal access within 1 mile.

## Bureau of Land Management Land Offices

### ALASKA:

555 Cordova St.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
516 Second Ave.  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

### ARIZONA:

Federal Bldg., Room 204  
Phoenix, Ariz. 85025

### CALIFORNIA:

Federal Bldg., Room 4017  
Sacramento, Calif. 95814  
1414 Eighth St.  
Riverside, Calif. 92502

### COLORADO:

14027 Federal Bldg.  
Denver, Colo. 80202

### IDAHO:

Federal Bldg., Room 334  
550 W. Fort St.  
Boise, Idaho 83702

### MONTANA:

(N. Dak., S. Dak.):  
Federal Bldg.  
316 North 26th St.  
Billings, Mont. 59101

### NEVADA:

Federal Bldg., 300 Booth St.  
Reno, Nev. 89505

### NEW MEXICO (Okla.):

Federal Bldg.  
Santa Fe, N. Mex. 87501

### OREGON:

729 Northeast Oregon St.  
Portland, Oreg. 97232

### UTAH:

Eighth Floor, Federal Bldg.  
125 South State St.  
P.O. Box 11505  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

### WASHINGTON:

729 Northeast Oregon St.  
Portland, Oreg. 97232

### WYOMING (Nebr., Kans.):

2120 Capitol Ave.  
Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001

### ALL OTHER STATES:

Robin Bldg.  
7981 Eastern Ave.  
Silver Spring, Md. 20910



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